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\$1 Spent on Prevention Saves \$10, Study Says

March 16, 2009

News Summary

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Investing in addiction prevention programs yields a 10-1 return for society, according to [researchers](#) from Iowa State University (ISU) who studied the Iowa Strengthening Families Program and the Life Skills Training Program.

Researchers Richard Spoth, Ph.D., and Max Gyuill, Ph.D. detailed findings from the "Prevention's Cost Effectiveness: Illustrative Economic Benefits of General Population Interventions" and "Prevention of Substance-related Problems: Effectiveness of Family-focused Prevention" [studies](#) for a conference sponsored by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization.

"Effective and efficient prevention promises to save possibly billions of dollars per year, provided we can learn how to effectively implement it on a larger scale," said Spoth, director of ISU's [Partnerships in Prevention Science Institute \(PPSI\)](#).

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